

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

9 May 1951

SUBJECT: NIE-34: TERMS OF REFERENCE: SPAIN'S POSITION IN THE
EAST-WEST CONFLICT (For consideration of
IAC Representatives)

THE PROBLEM

To estimate, in the light of the US decision to associate Spain with the Western defense effort, the various contributions Spain could make to US security and to the defense of Western Europe and the Mediterranean, as well as to examine the military, political and economic problems involved in associating Spain with the Western defense effort.

QUESTIONS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM

- I. WHAT ARE THE MILITARY POTENTIALITIES OF SPAIN IN WESTERN DEFENSE?
 - A. Military Bases (air, naval, and supply).
 - B. A redoubt in the event NATO forces are defeated north of the Pyrenees by Soviet forces.

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II. WHAT INTERNAL POLITICAL, ECONOMIC, AND MILITARY FACTORS WILL AFFECT SPAIN'S ABILITY TO REALIZE THESE POTENTIALITIES?

- A. Political: Stability of the regime, attitude of the people toward defensive association with the West, probable effect on the regime of such association with the West, Franco's foreign policy, etc.
- B. Economic: Strengths and weaknesses of the Spanish economy, particularly with respect to the military aspects of the economy.
- C. Military: State of the Spanish armed forces, training and equipment, etc.

III. IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE FACTORS, WHAT PROBLEMS ARE INVOLVED IN NEGOTIATING AND IMPLEMENTING: A US-SPANISH AGREEMENT ON MILITARY BASE RIGHTS? A US PROGRAM TO STRENGTHEN SPANISH DEFENSES?

- A. Conditions Franco may demand in return for such agreements?
- B. Political factors such as the attitude of the Spanish people, Franco's willingness to stand by his commitments, and the effect on the stability of the Franco regime?
- C. The reaction of the NATO powers?

IV. TO WHAT EXTENT CAN SPAIN CONTRIBUTE TO: A US-SPANISH AGREEMENT ON MILITARY BASE RIGHTS? A US PROGRAM TO STRENGTHEN SPANISH DEFENSES?

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V. WHAT PROBLEMS ARE INVOLVED IN SPANISH MEMBERSHIP IN NATO?

- A. Conditions likely to be demanded by Franco?
- B. Other internal political factors?
- C. The reaction of the NATO powers, including a discussion of the prospects of Spain's being accepted as a member of NATO and the conditions under which the NATO powers might accept Spanish participation.

VI. TO WHAT EXTENT COULD SPAIN, AS A MEMBER OF NATO, CONTRIBUTE TO THE WESTERN DEFENSE EFFORT AND WHAT ARE THE PRINCIPAL ECONOMIC AND MILITARY OBSTACLES TO THE FULL USE OF POTENTIAL SPANISH RESOURCES IN SUPPORT OF THE NATO EFFORT?

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